

CMAP Hosts Second Maine-Northfield Draft Plan Open House Saturday

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By Tom Robb | on June 13, 2018

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Rich and Pauline Glinka, who live near Central Road and Lyman Avenue and the Deerlove Triangle in unincorporated Maine Township, talk with a planner from the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning about the two times their home experienced major flooding in 2011 and 2013 at a May CMAP Maine Northfield Draft Plan open house.

Officials with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning scheduled an open house to take community feedback on a draft Maine-Northfield Unincorporated Area Plan from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday (June 16) at Dee Park, 9229 W. Emerson St., unincorporated Maine Township.

CMAP released its draft plan at a May 2 open house at Apollo School. Because only about a dozen people attended that open house, CMAP officials said they would hold a second open house in June.

The plan, if adopted by Cook County commissioners who commissioned the 113-page draft report, would serve as comprehensive plan for Maine and Northfield townships. If adopted, it would give planning guidance in the areas of land use, stormwater management, transportation, housing and coordination for the next five-to-10 years.

“Guided by over a year of community input, the plan will build on the area’s valuable assets to help guide and strengthen unincorporated Maine-Northfield in the decades ahead,” CMAP officials said in a written statement.

Saturday’s event should be similar to the May 2 open house, where large maps hung along the walls of Apollo’s gym, detailing proposed improvements in the areas of flooding, transportation and other areas addressed in the draft report. Maps were checkered with sticky notes and blue dots where residents made suggestions. CMAP staffers stood by maps to take suggestions to include in the final report.

The plan covers a three-square-mile area across unincorporated Maine and Northfield townships where more than 36,000 people reside. The plan was divided into both subject areas, including economic development, land use, transportation and flood detention, but was divided geographically into sub areas, recognizing unique features and needs of different areas in Maine and Northfield townships.

One key development discussed in the report is 28 acres of open land for sale by Ridgewood Cemetery off Dee Road between Niles and Glenview. Recommendations for that area include multifamily building and townhome residential development with some commercial and stormwater detention areas set aside.

The plan recommends creating municipal boundary agreements, as municipalities have legal influence on areas within a mile and a half of their borders. CMAP officials have backed away from Cook County efforts to see municipalities incorporate unincorporated areas, facing pushback from municipal leaders.